World class schools

2844. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have felt the need to set up world class schools, to attract investment and give better education;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Unspent funds under OBB and DPEP

2845. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that funds allotted during the last three years under the Operation Black Board and District Primary Education Programme largely went unspent every year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of unspent funds for the above programmes during the same period, State-wise; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to increase the literacy rate of tribal women in Orissa, which is the lowest in the entire country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) There have been some delays in utilization of funds released for Teaching Learning Equipment (TLE) under Operation Black Board to States/UTs. Under DPEP funds are released in advance to States to meet the requirements for the next six months as per the project guidelines. However, there have been some unspent amounts also on account of the slow pace of utilization in some States. The unspent balance with States/UTs in respect of Operation Black Board and District Primary Education Programme is given in the Statement enclosed. (*See* below)

(c) As per the 55th Round of National Sample Survey 1999-2000, the female literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in Orissa was 24 per cent as against the national average of 37 per cent in the category. With a view to tackling female illiteracy in the entire country, low female literacy districts have been identified. In such districts steps like visits by official teams to identify district specific problems, activation of Zilla Saksharata Samitis, holding of interactive sessions with the concerned State Education Secretaries etc. have been taken.

Statement

Unspent Funds under OBB and DPEP

(Rupees in crores)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Operation Black Board		District Primary Education Programme	
		Funds released by GOI during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002	Unspent balance with respect to releases during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 as on 1.4.2002	Funds released by GOI during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002	Unspent balance as on 1.4.2002
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	151.20	22.92	400.00	64.16
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.31	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	49.70	0.00	127.07	22.31
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	104.00	10.18
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	37.00	11.78
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	52.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	122.46	41.15
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	46.00	6.63
9.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	22.00	8.52
10.	Karnataka	347.47	0.00	171.60	10.83
11.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	63.00	12.53
12.	Madhya Pradesh	214.67	0.00	370.00	24.66
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	135.00	27.29
14.	Mizoram	3.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Nagaland	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Orissa	23.24	5.48	96.50	26.25
17.	Punjab	41.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Rajasthan	53.14	6.73	135.50	40.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Tamil Nadu	49.20	8.16	94.13	9.98
20.	Tripura	7.99	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	215.31	0.00	616.00	27.77
22.	Uttaranchal	25.66	0.00	18.00	3.74
23.	West Bengal	56.98	0.00	104.62	20.94
24.	Pondicherry	0.83	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL:	1243.12	43.28	2714.88	368.72

NOTE: Figures of unspent balance are provisional and subject to receipt of final figures from the States.

Utkal University as University of Excellence

2846. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received to declare Utkal University as University of Excellence;

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by Government on the request; and

(c) by when the university is likely to transform into University of Excellence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Selection Committee appointed by UGC did not recommend the Utkal University for creating a Centre of Pontential for Excellence.

Re-employment of teachers

2847. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission plan to do away with the existing post-retirement re-employment schemes for teachers;